REMARKS

The above amendments and following remarks are submitted in response to the Official Action of the Examiner mailed March 17, 2004. Having addressed all objections and grounds of rejection, originally presented claims 1-20, along with newly presented claims, being all the pending claims, are now deemed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration to that end is respectfully requested.

The specification has been amended above to include the serial number and filing date of a cross-referenced, co-pending, commonly assigned, application.

Claims 1-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,643,633, issued to Chau et al (hereinafter referred to as "Chau"). This ground of rejection is respectfully traversed as to amended claims 1-20 for the following reasons.

Chau is dedicated to showing how to transfer data between XML messages and a relational data base. That means that Chau's attention is limited to storing data from an XML message into the relational data base and retrieving data from the relational data base and packing it into an XML message. The title of Chau reads:

Storing Fragmented XML Data into a Relational Database by Decomposing XML Documents with Application Specific Mappings.

Similarly, the Abstract of Chau begins:

A technique is provided to store fragmented XML data into a relational database by decomposing XML documents with application specific mappings.

In other words, Chau is limited to transferring data from the XML message to the relational data base and transferring data from the relational data base to an XML message. The process of data base to XML transfer is shown by Chau Figs. 9-10. The process of XML to data base transfer is shown by Chau Fig. 11.

Applicants' invention, on the other hand, establishes an interface to a legacy data base management system (as distinguished from data base) from XML messages. Applicants describe the Field of the Invention (see specification at page 1, lines 11-13) as:

The present invention generally relates to data base management systems and more particularly relates to enhancements for providing an interface between a legacy data base management system and Internet servers employing XML (extensible markup language) protocol

The transfer between a user and a data base management system involves the request of a "service". This service request may include appended input parameters but is primarily a request of the data base management system to execute one or more functions. This should be readily apparent from the example given in the specification and drawings. Page 36, lines 3-5, states:

Referring back to Figs. 28 and 29, it can be seen that sample XML message 920 can be automatically decoded for processing as a Cool ICE service.

The specification provides extensive discussions of Cool ICE services including computations, boolean operations, etc.

Thus, Chau converts XML messages into data base entries whereas Applicants convert service XML messages into data base management service requests. Chau can only utilize the contents of XML messages into data. Applicants convert contents of XML messages into executable command script.

Because the Examiner has apparently not found this distinction (i.e., Chau's conversion of XML data transfer from Applicants' conversion of XML service requests) within Applicants' claims as presented, Applicants have herein amended all pending claims to make this distinction much more explicit.

Newly presented claims 21-25, though of differing scope, are deemed similarly limited.

Having thus responded to each objection and ground of rejection, Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment and allowance of claims 1-25, being the only pending claims.

Please charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-0620.

Respectfully submitted,

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By their attorney,

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